

# State of Our City - 2020



# Preamble

- Plattsburgh is the only New York city for 100 miles, and is the second largest city in the North Country.
- It has great beauty and history, and cheap power.
- But rural cities everywhere face immense challenges.
- They are constrained by historical boundaries, legacy infrastructure, and few growth opportunities.
- However, they are also often the historic, cultural, economic, and civic anchor of rural regions.
- We all have a stake in allowing our city to thrive.

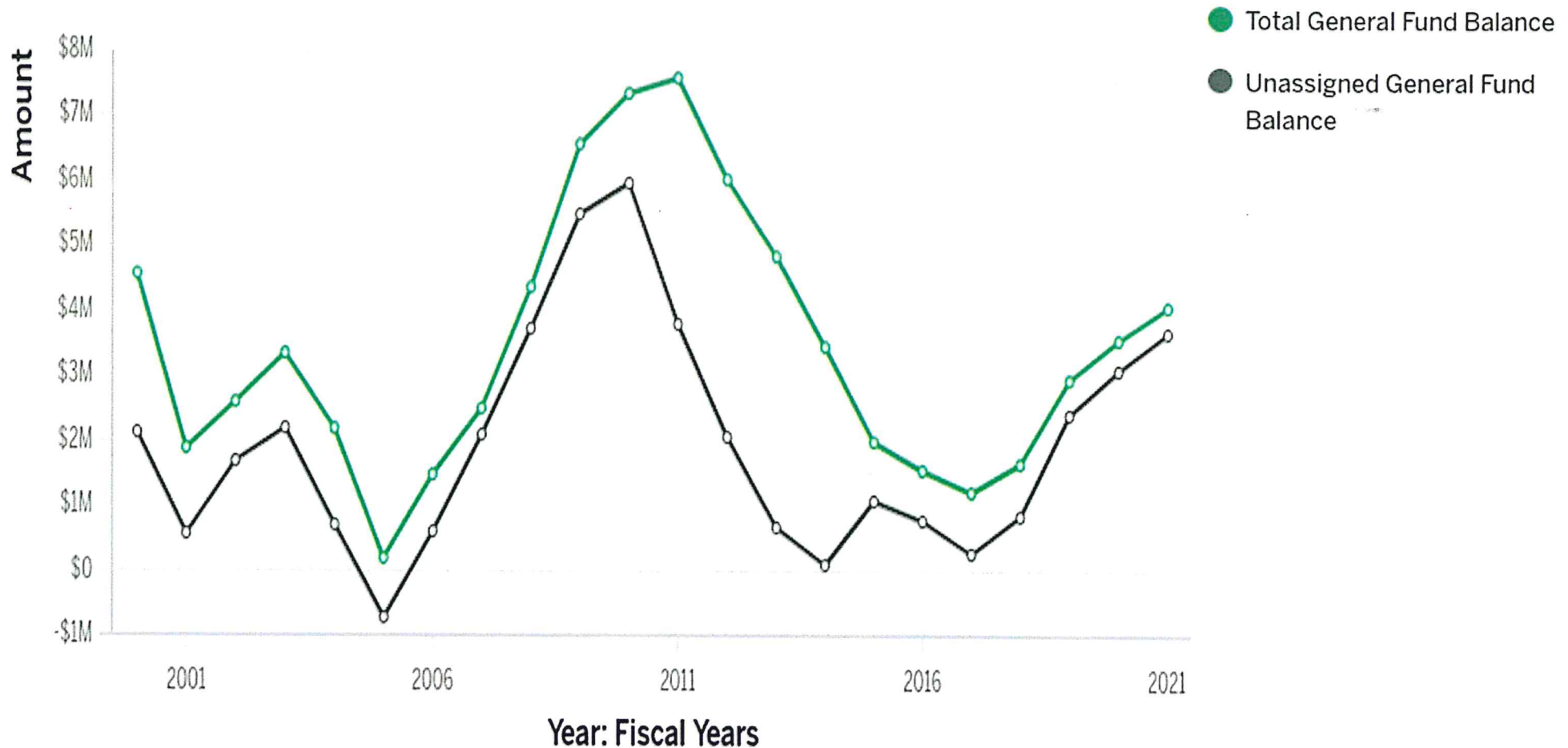


# Plattsburgh by the Numbers

- Population of 19,696, 25% of Clinton County, 5.1 sq. miles of land, .5% of the county, with 200 times its population density
- A property tax base of \$1.5 billion, 1/3rd exempt from property taxation, to fund half of our General Operating Budget.
- A \$60 million annual budget, divided into the property tax-funded General Operations, the Water/Wastewater and Electric Utilities Enterprise Funds.
- 27% of county's retail sales.
- 32% of adults have Bachelor degrees.
- We house the county seat, regional hospital, Plattsburgh State University, churches and museums, \$.5 billion exempt land.
- More than 80% have high speed Internet, increasingly with 1 Gibabit fiber optics service.

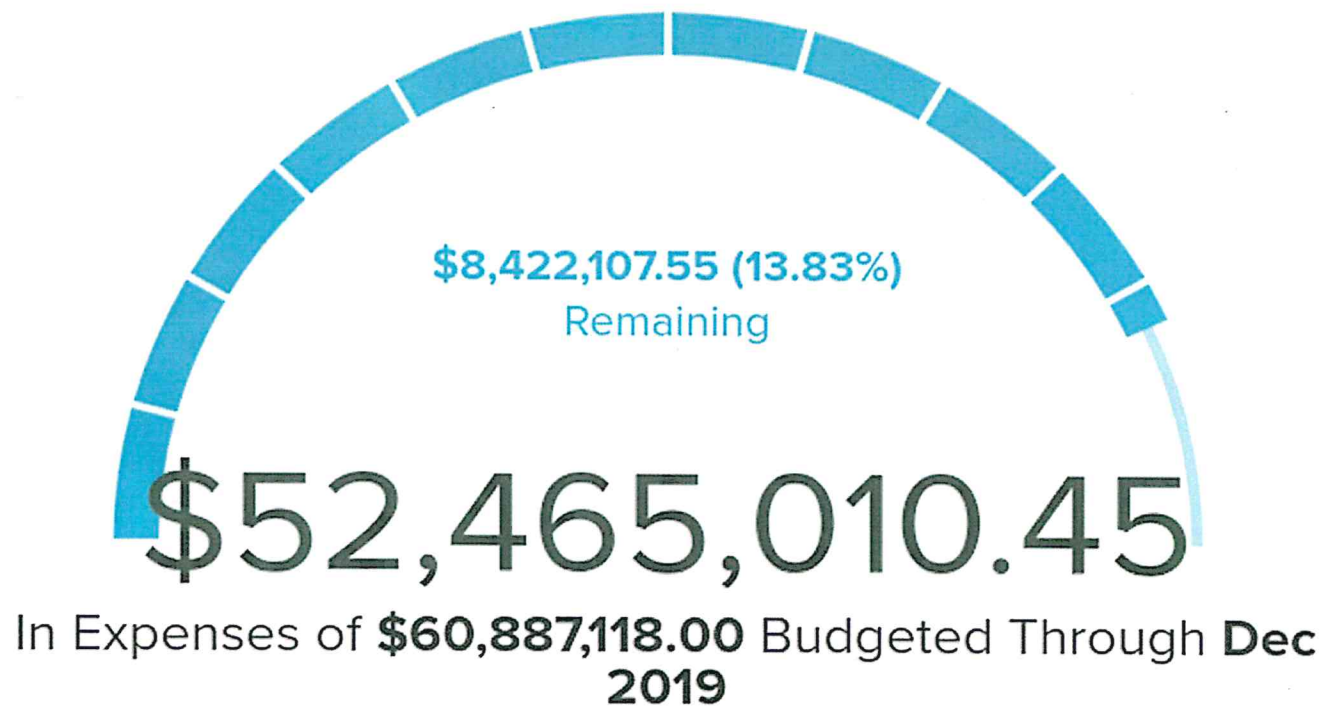
# A Deep Dive into the Data

Two fiscal crises challenged city sustainability as indicated by (real) fund balances:

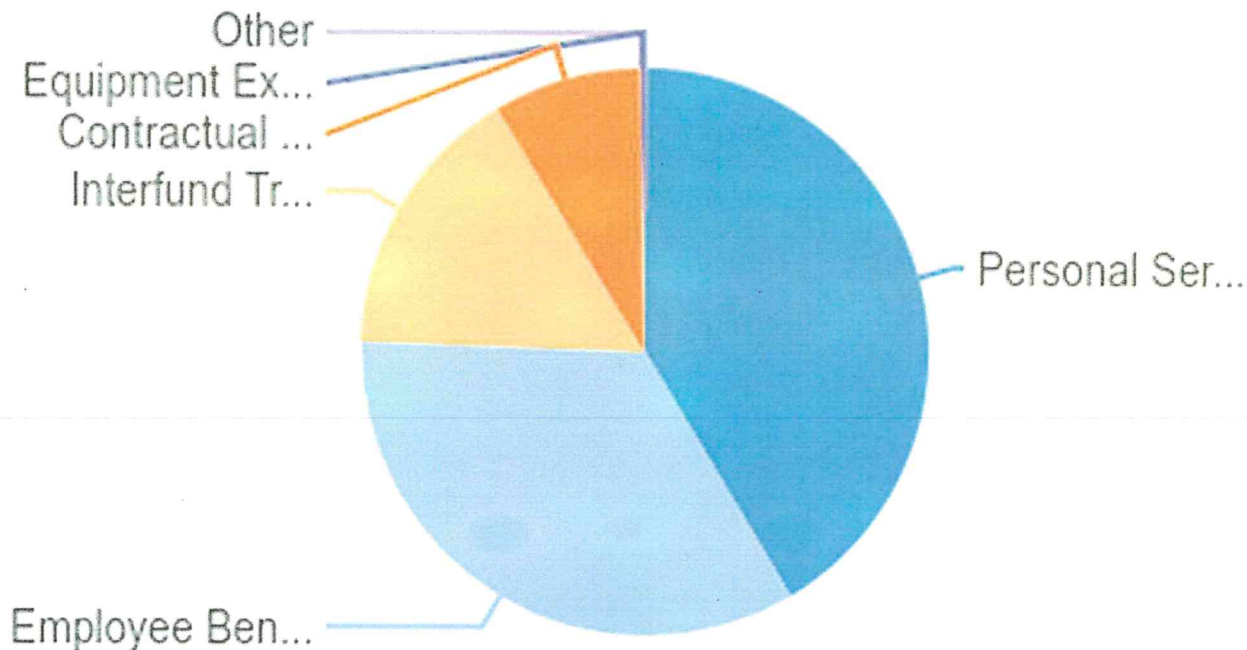


# General and Enterprise Funds

Recovery came from budget surpluses that are generated through careful spending that has come in 14% under budget:



# General Fund spending becoming more sustainable



**\$21,066,780.53**

in Expenses in 2019



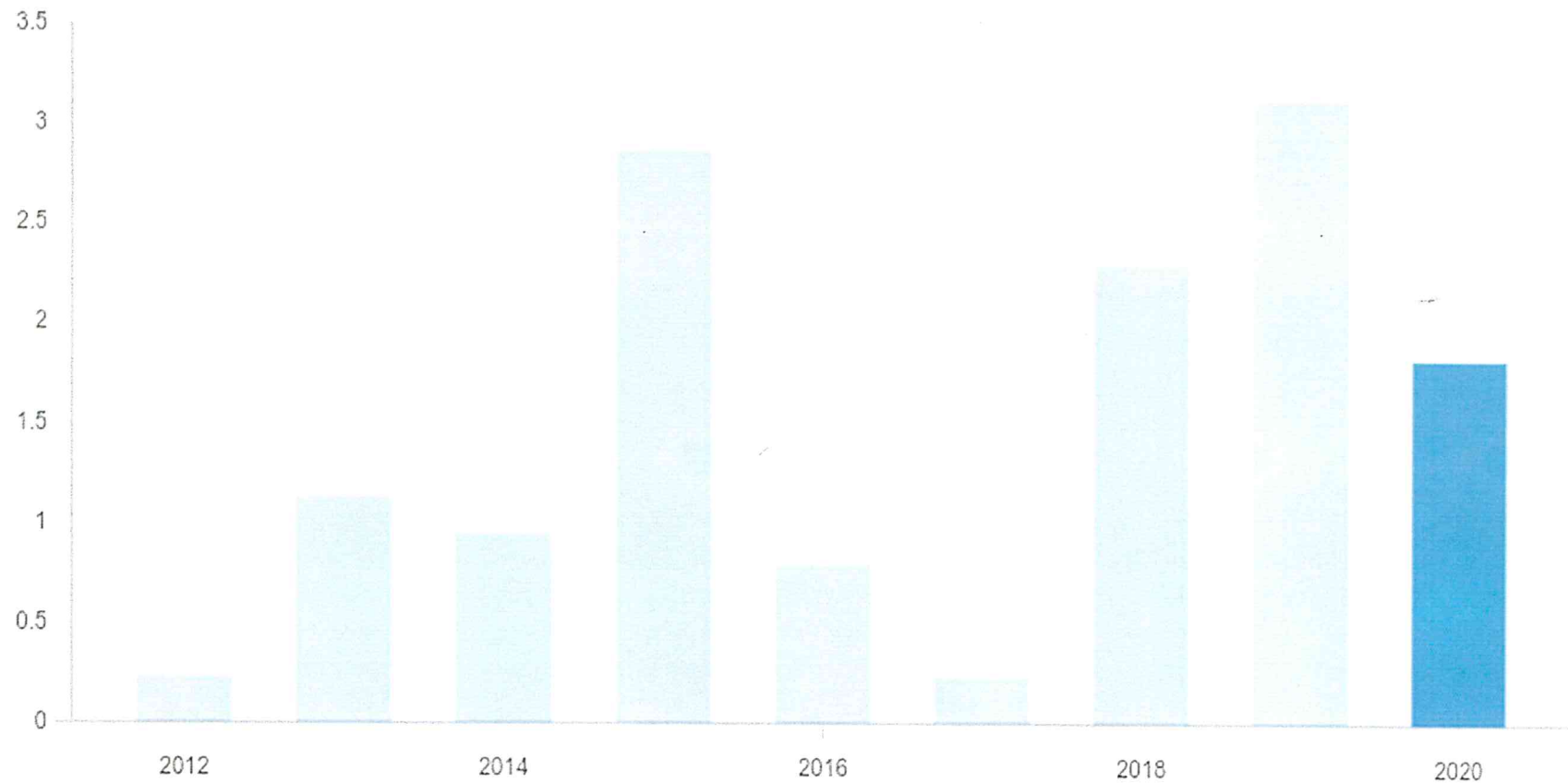
# City debt falling as share of Spending

Total General Fund debt now less than 70% of annual spending, and interest payments remain low.



# Increasing Infrastructure Spending

- Roadbuilding is at twice the rate of previous years.





# New Optimism in City Investment

- \$10 million State of New York investment in Downtown.
- DRI attracting \$25 million in private investment,
- And \$19 million in grants and loans for water and wastewater infrastructure,
- And developers are coming forward with ideas totaling millions more
- And millions more in spending annually from new households:

: DLMUD - Direct and Indirect Jobs, Wages, and Expenditures

	Direct	Indirect	Total
Jobs	32	7	39
Earnings	\$997,375	\$291,738	\$1,289,112
Sales	\$2,571,669	\$841,412	\$3,413,081

# Our City is a work-in-progress

- An economic and urban Renaissance is around the corner.
- It is fueled by the Governor's vision,
- a philosophy of sound economic and fiscal planning,
- A recognition that housing must be affordable
- And a goal to not just moderate tax growth, but actually roll the tax mill rate back a dozen years

# We are on the right track

We have shown we can:

- lower taxes while we enhance infrastructure spending and improve public safety.
- advocate for shared services and assist our municipalities so they too can succeed.
- continue to focus on good planning, careful long term budgeting, and a striving for efficiency.
- But, we need your help, through new ideas, your participation, and a sense we all share a destiny.



**Check out OpenGov at**  
**[www.cityofplattsburgh.com](http://www.cityofplattsburgh.com) and Thank You!**

